



Friday, August 22 – Monday, August 25

Welcome to Simpson College! The entire Simpson Community is excited to finally have you on campus. Below is the schedule for Welcome Week, along with a key indicating which sessions and activities are mandatory (though we would love to see you at everything).

Have a wonderful week and academic year!

Pillars of the First-Year Experience

These pillars help us to connect all of the exciting Welcome Week activities with the Why?! You will see these symbols throughout Welcome Week 2025!

Academic – The Academic Pillar includes components of the First-Year Experience in the classroom/ Foundations sections. This pillar also includes events and programming that help students prepare for success in the classroom.

Social – The Social Pillar is specifically for individual peer interaction and relationship building.

Connections – The Connections Pillar includes connections that students are developing on campus (campus departments/clubs/organizations, etc.) & off campus (jobs, internships, service).

Development – The Development Pillar is specific for events and programming that helps the student in the area of personal development.

4 PILLARS

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE



ACADEMIC



SOCIAL



CONNECTIONS



DEVELOPMENT

Friday, August 22

Schedule Key: Events in **red** are **required** for first-year students
Mandatory events for transfer students are indicated by ★

Dining Venues	Hours of Operation – Friday, August 22	
	Millies Coffee Shop: 7:15am-5:30pm	
	Sub Connection: 8:30am-8:00pm	
	Tyler's Grill: 11:00am-11:00pm	
	Pfeiffer Dining Hall: 7:00am-9:00pm	
8:00am – 12:00pm	Welcome Home, Storm! <i>Detailed move-in information:</i> https://www.simpson.edu/life-at-simpson/housing-dining/	Barker/Kresge
10:00am – 4:00pm	A Simpson Tradition: The Simpson Couch! <i>Take a picture with your family/guests to mark your start at SC</i>	Pedestrian Plaza Sculpture
8:30am – 5:00pm	Mailroom Open	Kent Campus Center
11:30am – 1:00pm	Alumni Legacy Luncheon – By Invite Only <i>Contact Mady Nachtman with questions: mady.nachtman@simpson.edu</i>	Kent Campus Center Principal Black Box
11:45am – 1:00pm	Softball Family Meeting	Kent Campus Center Hubbell II
1:45pm – 2:00pm	Transfer Student & First-Year Commuter Student Check-In <i>Transfer students and incoming students who are living off campus, should check in here.</i>	Kent Campus Center Atrium

1:15pm



★ **Meet your SC Leader (SCL) |** *It is time to meet your SC Leader and your Foundations class! Student participation is required. Look for your SCL or Foundations professor's name to find your meeting location! If you need assistance, staff will be in the Kent Atrium to assist you. A campus map can be found at: <https://www.simpson.edu/life-at-simpson/indianola-campus/>*

Professor	SC Leader (SCL) & Meeting Location
Bardwell	SCL Rowen: Kent Campus Center west entrance (outside – doors that face Buxton/Picken)
Benoit	SCL Alyssa: Kent Campus Center east entrance (outside – doors that face Kresge)
Brodie	SCL Gracie B.: Pedestrian Plaza by sculpture
Brownen	SCL Lauren: Kresge courtyard – grass area between Kresge & Mary Berry
Busby/Whalen	SCL Cam: Dunn Library outdoor seating area
Doling	SCL Brandon: Fire Pit between Barker & Kresge
Griffin	SCL Gracie C.: Grass area between Buxton Park and Kresge
Livingstone	SCL Mason: Barker Basketball Court (library side)
Magalhaes	SCL Erica: Kresge circle drive
Meyers	SCL Jacob: Buxton Park Fountain
Nostrala (Jennifer)	SCL Makynna: Grass area by Carse Hall/Hopper Gym
Nostrala (Justin)	SCL Frank: Buxton Park Gazebo
Peck	SCL Ava: Dunn Library – space between library and Mary Berry
Rehmeier	SCL Ellie: Buxton Park Playground
Sessions	SCL Lorelei: Barker Basketball Court (Buxton Park side)
Stevens	SCL Amanda: Buxton Stadium ticket booth (by weight room)
Timm	SCL Skyler: Buxton Stadium ticket booth (by weight room)
Vance	SCL Memphis: Pedestrian Plaza (by sculpture)
Walker	SCL Will: Pedestrian Plaza (by sculpture)
Transfer Students	SCL Zach: Kent Campus Center Atrium

Friday, August 22 - continued

1:45pm



★ **Welcome to the Red & Gold** | Join the Simpson College community as we officially welcome you into the Simpson family! This special tradition marks your entrance into college life, as new students walk through the campus gates for the first time. You'll walk through them again at graduation—this time as Simpson graduates. All new students are expected to attend. Families are encouraged to join and witness this memorable moment.

**Smith Chapel
Outdoor Steps**

2:00pm

See You Soon, Storm Parents! | As Welcome Week kicks off, it's time to say goodbye—for now! Join fellow students and their families for a casual send-off with lemonade and cookies. Take a moment to say farewell and get ready for an exciting week ahead!

Tent by Mary Berry Hall

3:00pm – 4:00pm



Residence Hall Floor Meetings | Connect with your Residence Hall floor and Community Advisor (CA) to talk about what it means to live in a first-year community. **Commuter and transfer students can join current students on the Smith Chapel Patio!**

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Settle in, Storm! | Use this time to get comfortable in your new room – you've got an exciting evening ahead! Already unpacked? Head over to the Intramural Games between Barker and Kresge and hang out with the SC Leaders (SCLs)!

Red & Gold Connections | Celebrate the start of the semester with the Reconnect Movement by making your very own Simpson-themed friendship bracelet! Set your phone down, take a moment to relax, and make new friends while you make your bracelets!

Location: Fire Pit by Barker/Kresge

5:00pm – 7:30pm



★ **Pizza on the Plaza** | Build community with your fellow classmates and SC President!

Red Group: Benoit, Stevens, Peck, Doling, Busby/Whalen, Rehmeier, Magalhaes, Justin Nostrala, Brodie, Transfers

5:00pm – 6:00pm: Pizza from our favorite Indianola pizza places

6:00pm – 7:00pm: Break / Games with your Foundations class

Gold Group: Griffin, Meyers, Brownen, Sessions, Livingstone, Vance, Bardwell, Timm, Walker, Jennifer Nostrala

5:00pm – 6:00pm: Break / Games with your Foundations class

6:00pm – 7:00pm: Pizza from our favorite Indianola pizza places

At 5pm meet your SCL – they will provide you with the location

7:30pm

Intramural Games! | Between Barker and Kresge, IM games will be available throughout Welcome Week!

Lawn between Barker and Kresge

9:00 pm



Hypnotist Zach Pincine | Hosted by Campus Activities Board

**Kent Campus Center
Black Box**

Offices Open on Friday, August 22 – 8:00am-4:30pm

Admissions – College Hall
Business Office – Hillman Hall
Office of Financial Aid – College Hall
IT – McNeill Hall, lower level
Spirit Shop – Kent Campus Center

Registrar's Office – Hillman Hall
Student Development – Kent Campus Center
Holy Grounds – Dirlam Lounge, Smith Chapel
Mailroom – Kent Campus Center, 10am-3pm

Saturday, August 23

Dining Venue Hours

Millie's: 9:30am – 2:30pm | Pfeiffer Dining Hall: 7:00am – 9:00pm

Pfeiffer Dining Hall

9:00am – 9:50am



SCL Meeting | *Meet with your Foundations class and SCL to learn the essentials of student life at Simpson. This is your chance to ask questions, get helpful tips, and start building connections that will support you throughout your college journey.*

Connect with your SCL to find out your meeting location

10:00am – 1:30pm



★ **Building Community** | *Start your morning by connecting with your classmates and learning what it truly means to be part of the Simpson community. Together, we'll explore our shared values, traditions, and the importance of building a strong, supportive campus culture.*

Group 1: Benoit, Stevens, Peck, Doling, Busby/Whalen, Sessions, Walker

10:00am – 11:30am: Community Dialogue

11:30am – 12:30pm: Lunch

12:45pm – 1:45pm: Storming through Simpson - Scavenger Hunt

Group 2: Rehmeier, Magalhaes, Justin Nostrala, Brodie, Meyers, Transfer Students

10:00am – 11:30am: Community Dialogue

11:40am – 12:40pm: Storming through Simpson - Scavenger Hunt

12:45pm – 1:30pm: Lunch

Group 3: Brownen, Griffin, Jennifer Nostrala, Livingstone, Vance, Bardwell, Timm

10:00am – 11:00am: Storming through Simpson - Scavenger Hunt

11:00am – 11:45am: Lunch

12:00pm – 1:30pm: Community Dialogue

Locations:

Dialogue: Hubbell Hall - co-sponsored by Student Government Association & Culver Fellows

Lunch: Dining venues

1:45pm – 2:45pm

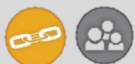
Break | *Take time to reset, meet new friends, or set up your room!*

2:45pm

Meet your CA | *It is required that you meet your CA at this time in order to attend the following required event.*

Connect with your CA

3:00pm



★ **Playfair** | *It's time for the ultimate icebreaker! Join us for this one-of-a-kind opportunity to meet your fellow classmates. Meet your CA at the location where you had your floor meeting. CAs will help make sure you get to the right place!*

College Hall Gates

4:15pm



Class Photo | *Help us bring back this old Simpson tradition and stick around after Playfair for the Class of 2029 photo by the gates! If you haven't seen the old class photos hung up in College Hall, be sure to go check out those historical pictures!*

College Hall Gates

4:30pm – 8:00pm

Choir Auditions! | Sign up: <https://bit.ly/SimpsonChoir>
One-one-one hearing for voice placement and possible invitation to Chamber Singers. All students will be admitted into College Choir. See link or email Dr. Jon Arnold at jon.arnold@simpson.edu

Dr. Arnold's Office: Amy Robertson Music Center (ARMC) #257

5:00pm – 7:00pm



Dinner & Activities | Join SCLs and your fellow classmates at any of the following activities!

- **5pm: Fraternity House Tours** – Leaving from Kent Atrium | *Come and learn more about our Fraternities on campus as we tour the houses, meet members, and answer any questions you have for them about being in a Fraternity. They will give a short overview of their organization and values. The tours will meet in the Kent Atrium at 5pm, then we will head to Kappa Theta Psi, our local gender inclusive fraternity, then heading to Alpha Tau Omega, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and ending with Lambda Chi Alpha.*
- **5pm: Sorority Round Tables** – Hubbell Hall II | *During the Sorority Round Table, you will get to talk to current members of our national sororities, Tri-Delta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and Pi Beta Phi. You will learn more about sorority recruitment, leadership opportunities as a sorority member, academic support each sorority offers, etc. Bring any questions you have for our sorority members; potential topics can include benefits, financial obligations, balancing being a member with other commitments, and any other things that you are curious about.*
- **Ice Cream with RLC!** – Smith Chapel Patio | *Drop in to meet student leaders in the Religious Life Community and learn about our programs for the year. Enjoy an ice cream sundae and pick up this year's free t-shirt!*
- **Intramural (IM) Games** | 9 Square & Crossnet: Lawn between Barker and Kresge | Sand Volleyball: Next to the baseball field (by 907 North E Street)
- **Kickball** – Field between KKG & Fraternities

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Storm the [Theme] Houses! | *Check out the Simpson College Theme Houses by stopping by to learn more, get free food, and play games!*



Victory Voices (903 North E Street): Chip & dip bar + yard games + sand volleyball

Victory Voices is focused on female athlete empowerment. Our goal is to create a more collaborative space for the female athletes to come together in groups that are broader/different from just their initial team groups. We want to give females a voice on campus as well as a space to be heard and talk about challenges.

Simpson United (901 North E Street): Pizza, pasta, and positively fun yard games

The Simpson Athletics Theme House is committed to creating lasting connections and breaking barriers between athletes and non-athletes at Simpson College, creating a more inclusive and united student population. Our goal this year is to bring the student population together, along with the community, to gain understanding of each other, and become more supportive and involved in each other's journeys.

La Casa Unida (707 North D Street): Refreshments, board games, and vision boards.

La casa unida revolves around forming multiple connections with many cultures and communities. At La Casita, we open our doors to curiosity and celebration, hosting events highlighting cultures, amplifying unheard stories, and bringing people together. We aim to break cultural stigmas and spark meaningful friendships in a space where everyone feels like they belong.

Women's & Gender Resource Center - WGRC (705 North D Street): desserts, desserts, and more desserts!

Women's and Gender Resource Center aims to provide accessible resources, advocate for a more gender inclusive society, promote equality, and create a safe space for all individuals. By enacting our mission, we aim to prosper a community committed to maintaining the diverse community Simpson College encompasses, enhancing the current mission statement at hand.

8:00pm



BINGO – a Simpson tradition! | Hosted by CAB

Hubbell Hall

9:00pm



S'mores with the Greek Community | *Join our fraternity and sorority members at the firepit between Barker and Kresge to celebrate the start of a new school year by making s'mores. Hosted by Fraternity and Sorority Life*

Fire Pit between Barker and Kresge

Sunday, August 24

If you are interested in area worship services, contact Chaplain Mara Bailey at mara.bailey@simpson.edu

7:00am – 5:00pm	Pfeiffer Dining Hall Open	Pfeiffer Dining Hall
9:30am – 2:30pm	Millies Coffee Shop	Kent Campus Center
11:00am – 11:30am 	SCL Meeting Meet up with your Foundations class and map out where all your classes are located.	Classrooms – check with your SCL for your meeting location
10:30am – 5:00pm ★	Transfer Orientation Meet fellow transfer students and learn about Simpson resources. Required for transfer students only.	Hubbell II 
11:30am – 12:30pm	Lunch	Campus Dining Venues
12:00pm – 4:15pm Shopping Trips During the break time for each group, SCLs will be providing a shuttle to Wal-Mart, Goodwill & Dollar Tree. Final return trip returns at 4:15pm <u>Vans will depart campus at:</u> 12:00, 1:30, and 3:00pm. Shuttle will leave from the Kresge circle drive.	MVP and IT Training <i>Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) aims to inspire leadership by empowering bystanders to confront and challenge norms that support abusive, bullying, and discriminatory behaviors. Help us create a culture of respect at Simpson! This session is required.</i> Check with your CA to learn where your floor will meet for Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Training. Group 1: CA Drew, CA Maddy, CA Kaylee, CA Eric, CA Paw 12:00-1:15pm: MVP 1:30-2:00pm: IT Training 2:00-5:30pm: Break Group 2: CA Elizabeth, CA Lupe, CA Emmy, Transfers & Commuters 12:00-12:45pm: Break 12:45-1:15pm: IT Training 1:30-2:45pm: MVP 2:45-5:30pm: Break Group 3: CA Sam, CA Christian, CA Sophie, CA Dionni and CA William 12:00-12:45pm: Break 12:45-1:15pm: IT Training 1:15-2:45pm: Break 3:00-4:15pm: MVP 4:15-5:30pm: Break	
5:00pm	Mass	Smith Chapel
5:30pm – 7:00pm 	Stormin' Back Block Party Join returning students, staff, and faculty as we host our first kick-off event for the 2025-2026 school year! Games, prizes, and food!	Pedestrian Plaza All dining locations are closed for dinner.
5:30pm – 8:00pm 	Choir Auditions! Sign up: https://bit.ly/SimpsonChoir One-one-one hearing for voice placement and possible invitation to Chamber Singers. All students will be admitted into College Choir. See link above or email Dr. Jon Arnold at jon.arnold@simpson.edu for more details.	Dr. Arnold's Office: Amy Robertson Music Center (ARMC) #257
8:00pm 	Stand Around Stand Around is a campus-wide celebration at the start of the school year hosted by Campus Activities Board (CAB).	Pedestrian Plaza

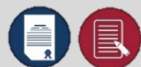
Monday, August 25

9:45am – 10:20am

Foundations Class | Meet your SCL & Foundations Professor!



10:30am – 12:00pm **★ Keynote Speaker – Ken Nwadike Jr.**



Ken E. Nwadike Jr. is a peace activist, motivational speaker, and video journalist known as the Free Hugs Guy. He is one of the nation's top motivational speakers for colleges and universities. We are thrilled to have Ken spend time at Simpson College to inspire our students, faculty, and staff. Co-hosted by TRIO and New Student Programs

Pote Theater

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Lunch | TRIO students are invited for a special continued session with Ken – this is required as part of your TRIO orientation. TRIO lunch is in Hubbell Hall.

All Dining Venues Open

1:00pm – 2:00pm

TRIO Orientation | All TRIO students are required to attend orientation.

Great Hall

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Work Study Training (on campus employment) | A training will be held for students who have been hired to work on campus for the fall semester. This training will allow students to complete necessary paperwork, interact with supervisors, and learn about what is expected of them as employees of Simpson College.

Pote Theater

Voter Registration Details

Student Ambassadors with the Culver Public Policy Center's nonpartisan Voter Engagement Team will be tabling throughout the day across campus to help students with voter registration and address updates.

Keep an eye out for the big red Culver Center pop-up tent outdoors and tables inside Kent.

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Faculty Office Hours | Need to change your class schedule? Stop by your Foundations I professor's office!

Faculty Offices

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Simpson Showcase | Stop by Black Box to get resources from various campus departments such as Student Development, Career Development, Financial Aid, Admissions and more! This event is come and go as you need.

Black Box

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Simpson Productions Open House



BPAC Main Lobby

8:00pm


Blessing of the Athletes | Meet on the track at 6:30pm – required for student athletes

Outside Smith Chapel

Tuesday, August 26

9:00am – 2:00pm	First Day Photos <i>Take your first day of school photos!</i>	Kent Atrium
9:00am – 2:00pm	I Belong at Simpson Because... <i>Stop by Kent atrium to sign the belonging poster and share why you belong at Simpson!</i>	Kent Atrium
4:30pm – 6:00pm	Speech, Debate & Mock Trial Meeting Come learn more about Speech, Debate, and Mock Trial at Simpson! We welcome all students, regardless of experience levels, who are interested in public speaking, argumentation, and advocacy. Join us for a chance to learn more about our program and meet other team members!	McNeill Hall Pioneer Room
6:30pm – 9:30pm Audition Requirements & Sign Up: ↓ 	Auditions <i>Participation in Simpson Productions is open to all Simpson College students.</i> ANTHROPOLOGY by Lauren Gunderson. Performances Oct. 3-5; Director, Ann Woldt LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS Books and Lyrics by Howard Ashman, Music by Alan Menken. Performances Nov. 14-17; Director, Jennifer Nostrala; Musical Director, Damon Stevens.	Company Form (must be filled out before audition time): ↓ 
8:00pm	Karaoke & CAB <i>Hosted by Campus Activities Board (CAB)</i>	Black Box


Wednesday, August 27

12:30pm 	Convocation <i>Join us for Simpson College's ceremonial beginning to the academic year. All-College Convocation includes welcomes from the college president and the student body president as well as the formal processional of the college faculty. Meet at 12:30 p.m. to attend with your SCL/Foundations section.</i>	Smith Chapel
4:30pm – 6:00pm	Speech, Debate & Mock Trial Meeting Come learn more about Speech, Debate, and Mock Trial at Simpson! We welcome all students, regardless of experience levels, who are interested in public speaking, argumentation, and advocacy. Join us for a chance to learn more about our program and meet other team members!	McNeill Hall Pioneer Room
6:00pm – 7:00pm	SGA Information Meeting <i>Learn more about being involved in Student Government Association!</i>	Senate Room
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Speed Friending <i>Hosted by Campus Activities Board (CAB) and the Director of Community & Belonging</i>	Black Box

Thursday, August 28

4:30pm – 6:00pm	First Generation Student, Staff and Faculty Reception <i>Celebrating first-generation students! Join us as we build community, offer support, and connect you with first-generation staff and faculty.</i>	Black Box
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Culver Fellows Opening Picnic - Culver Fellows only	Culver Center Backyard
8:00pm	Canvas Painting Hosted by Campus Activities Board (CAB)	Black Box

Friday, August 29

12:30pm-2:30pm	★ Org Fest Excited to get involved? Drop by to browse various student organizations that Simpson has to offer!	Hubbell Hall 
7:00pm	Men's Soccer vs. Augustana	Bill Buxton Stadium

Saturday, August 30

8:00pm	Movie Night (limited to first 50 students) <i>Hosted by Campus Activities Board (CAB)</i>	Black Box
4:00pm	Men's Soccer vs. Illinois College	Bill Buxton Stadium

Sunday, August 31

8:00pm	CAB Game Night	TBD
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Required Trainings

As part of your transition to college life, **all new students are required to complete important online training modules.** As a new student, you will have five total trainings. The directions on completing the trainings will come in two separate emails to your Simpson email. One from Vector and one from Alcohol 101.

Vector Trainings (you likely received a flyer in your SOAR folder assigning some of these already. For reference, the content of that is below):

1. RespectEdu for College
2. Title IX Rights and Protections
3. Hazing Awareness and Prevention for Students
4. Active Shooter: Run, Hide, Fight for Students

Alcohol 101+ is our provider for the 5th training. You will receive an email directly from them for this alcohol education training.

Please be sure to complete all training components by September 19th.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Student Development at 515-961-1306 or by emailing studevworkstudy@mysimpson.onmicrosoft.com.

Immunization Records – Health Services

All students are required to complete the electronic health form and provide proof of immunizations through the electronic health records, Medicat. Log in to the patient portal at simpson.medicatconnect.com using your Simpson username and password (you can also log in through OneLogin). **Students will need a copy of their immunization records to input the information and upload a picture.**

Announcements

Fraternity Primary Recruitment: August 26-September 18

Sign up for more information by following the QR code!



Sorority Primary Recruitment: September 3rd to September 14th

Sign up for more information by following the QR code!



Student Government Association (SGA)

SGA is seeking nominees to serve as first-year class president and four first-year class senators for 2025-2026. Please check your email for a link to sign-up and be placed on the ballot. An optional information session will be held August 27 at 6pm in the Senate Meeting Room in Kent Campus Center. Sign-ups end on August 28 and voting runs August 29 @ Noon through September 2 @ 8am. The person receiving the most votes will be named class president and the next four highest vote getters will be named class senators. Candidates will be notified of results the afternoon of September 2 and those elected will be sworn in and begin serving in their role at the September 4 SGA meeting.

Campus Activities Board (CAB)

CAB partners with Swank Residence Life Cinema to provide a free streaming service to students, faculty, and staff. Our library includes hundreds of recent releases, timeless classics and much more. New movies are added each month. The service is geofenced, so to stream from this site you must be on campus and connected to the College network. <https://streaming.swankmp.net/simpsonrlc>

Want discounts? Check out the discounts offered to Simpson students!

<https://www.indianolachamber.com/simpson-college-discount-program> or scan the QR Code →

